

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-12 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08
INR-10 LAB-04 NSAE-00 SIL-01 PA-02 ICA-20 /084 W
-----067919 281704Z /66

R 281532Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7622
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY DUBLIN
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY HELSINKI
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON
USMISSION GENEVA

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 LONDON 10252

USEEC

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ELAB
SUBJECT: UNEMPLOYMENT AND VACANCIES - JUNE 1978

SUMMARY: TOTAL, UNADJUSTED UNEMPLOYMENT IN THE UK ROSE
BY 59,000 IN THE MONTH TO JUNE 8 ACCORDING TO FIGURES
PUBLISHED (JUNE 20) BY THE DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT.
THE NEW TOTAL OF 1.45 MILLION REPRESENTS 6.1 PERCENT
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OF ALL EMPLOYEES. THIS INCREASE DISGUISES THE CONTINUED
IMPROVEMENT IN BASIC UNEMPLOYMENT HOWEVER, SINCE UN-
ADJUSTED ADULT UNEMPLOYMENT FELL BY 38,000 (TO 1.3
MILLION), WHILE THE MAJOR IMPACT OF THE JUNE SCHOOL
LEAVERS PUSHED UNEMPLOYMENT AMONG THIS GROUP UP BY
97,000 (TO 145,600). THE UNEMPLOYMENT RATE FOR THE
UK AFTER SEASONAL ADJUSTMENT REMAINED AT 5.7 PERCENT

(1.36 MILLION. A MARGINAL REDUCTION OF 1,800 OVER MAY). REGISTERED VACANCIES WERE ALSO UP BY 9,359 (7,000 AFTER SEASONAL ADJUSTMENTS). THE FULL DATA FOR THE UK AND GREAT BRITAIN APPEAR IN THE TABLE BELOW. END SUMMARY.

1. AN INCREASE OF 97,438 IN THE NUMBER OF UNEMPLOYED SCHOOL LEAVERS DISGUISED A CONTINUED IMPROVEMENT IN THE UNEMPLOYMENT FIGURES IN THE MONTH TO JUNE 8. THE INCREASE IN THE DATA RELATING TO SCHOOL LEAVERS IS DUE TO THE FACT THAT THE MAJORITY OF THE LABOR MARKET ENTRANTS FROM SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES COME AT THE JUNE END OF THE ACADEMIC YEAR. AFTER SEASONAL ADJUSTMENT, AND EXCLUDING SCHOOL LEAVERS, UK UNEMPLOYMENT FELL BY 1,800 (2,200 IN GREAT BRITAIN). THIS LEFT 1.36 MILLION UNEMPLOYED (1.30 IN GB). AT 5.7 PERCENT (5.6 IN GB) THE RATE REMAINED AT ITS MAY LEVEL.

2. WHILE THE REDUCTION WAS THE SMALLEST IN THE CURRENT RUN OF MONTHLY IMPROVEMENTS, THERE IS A GROWING CONFIDENCE IN GOVERNMENT CIRCLES THAT THE FIGURES OF RECENT MONTHS CONSTITUTE AN IMPROVING AND LASTING TREND. CHANCELLOR HEALEY TOLD A RECENT COMMONS COMMITTEE THAT, ON THE BASIS OF CURRENT UNEMPLOYMENT FIGURES, THE PREDICTED 3 PERCENT GROWTH RATE FOR THE COMING YEAR WOULD PRODUCE A "SIGNIFICANTLY FASTER FALL IN UNEMPLOY-
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MENT THAN WE HAVE SEEN SINCE LAST SEPTEMBER". STATEMENTS SUCH AS THIS PROVIDE AN INDICATION THAT THE GOVERNMENT IS BEGINNING TO HOPE, WITH SOME CONFIDENCE, THAT THE CORNER HAS BEEN TURNED.

3. THE REACTION TO THE FIGURES FROM THE TRADE UNION

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R 281532Z JUN 78

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7623

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

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MOVEMENT WAS QUIET. THE IMPROVEMENT WILL, HOWEVER, BE
CAREFULLY MONITORED BY THE GOVERNMENT AND ITS TRADE
UNION ALLIES, WHO ARE KEENLY AWARE OF THE POSSIBLE
IMPACT OF UNEMPLOYMENT ON A POSSIBLE AUTUMN ELECTION.

UNEMPLOYMENT AND VACANCIES - JUNE 1978

GREAT BRITAIN UNITED KINGDOM

NUMBER CHANGE SINCE NUMBER CHANGE SINCE

MAY MAY

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ADULT

UNEMPLOYED 1,242,149 -38,029 1,300,435 -38,187

SCHOOL (PLUS) (PLUS)

LEAVERS 139,254 94,566 145,626 97,438

TOTAL (PLUS) (PLUS)

UNEMPLOYED 1,381,403 56,537 1,446,061 59,251

PERCENTAGE (PLUS) (PLUS)

RATE 5.9 0.2 6.1 0.2

SEASONALLY

ADJUSTED

UNEMPLOYED 1,304,600 -2,200 1,364,600 -1,800

(EXCLUDING

SCHOOL LEAVERS)

	GREAT BRITAIN		UNITED KINGDOM	
	NUMBER	CHANGE SINCE	NUMBER	CHANGE SINCE
	MAY		MAY	
PERCENTAGE				
RATE	5.6	--	5.7	--
VACANCIES	256,506	PLUS 9,287	258,785	PLUS 9,359
SEASONALLY				
ADJUSTED				
VACANCIES	215,500	PLUS 7,400	217,400	PLUS 7,500

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Litigation History:
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Status: NATIVE
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